



FOREST PEST MANAGEMENT

Southern Region - Region 8

Report No. 84-3-15

Date: August 3, 1984

AERIAL DETECTION SURVEY OF FOREST INSECT AND DISEASE ACTIVITY IN NORTHERN VIRGINIA

LAND OWNERSHIP OR SURVEY AREA: Northern Virginia

STATE: Virginia

AREA WITHIN THE SURVEY BOUNDARY: 3,000,000 acres

DATE: JULY 16, 1984

PERCENT COVERAGE: 10 percent

AIRCRAFT: Cessna 182

CREW: C. W. Dull, Cal Morris (Virginia Division of Forestry), Robert Bailey (Virginia Department of Agriculture)

REPORT PREPARED BY: C. W. Dull

SURVEY OBJECTIVES

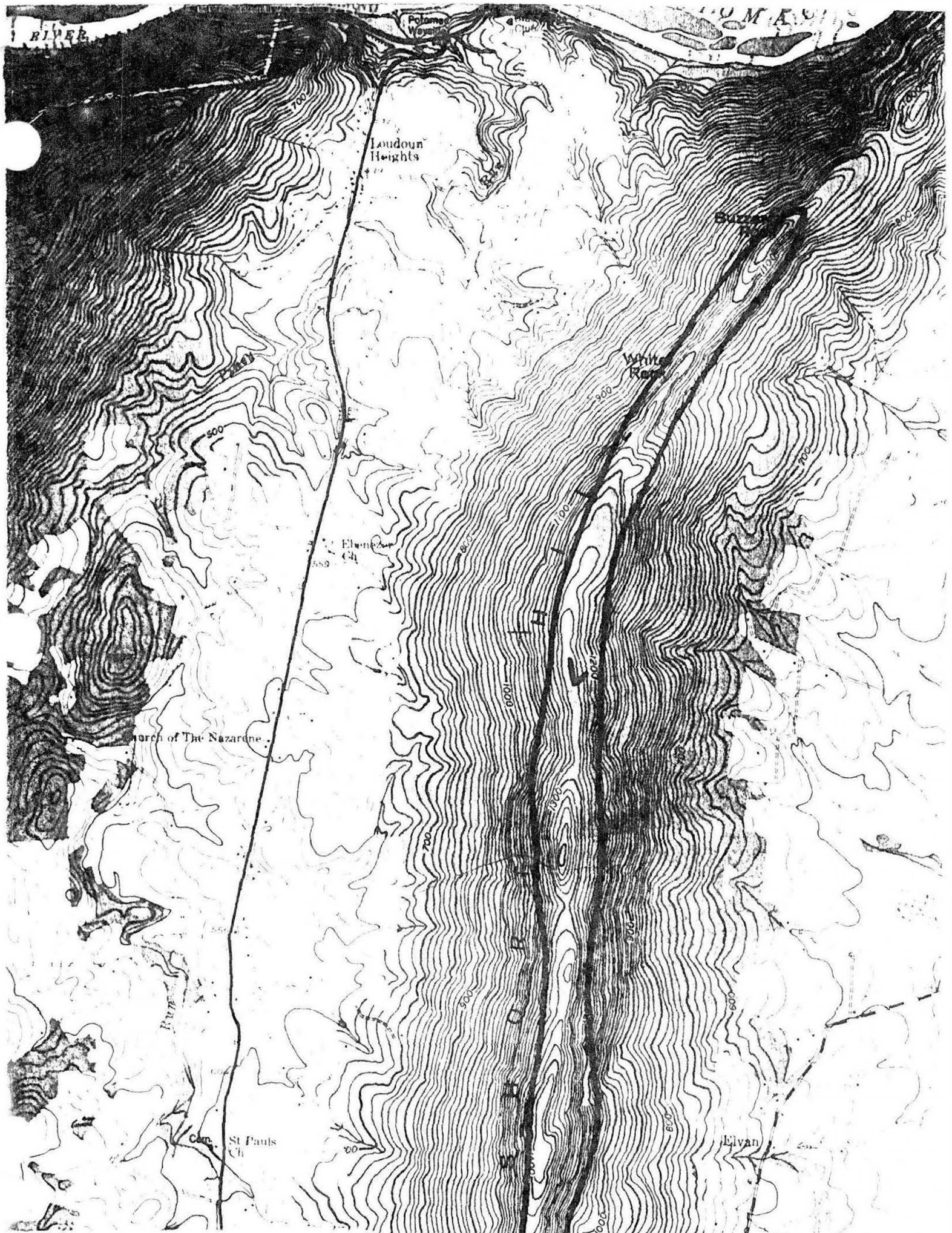
The purpose of this survey was to detect gypsy moth defoliation in Northern Virginia. Areas of known gypsy moth infestation in the Northern Virginia area which were sprayed to control the gypsy moth populations were also aerially surveyed.

SURVEY RESULTS

Defoliation caused by the gypsy moth was observed during this aerial detection survey for the first time in Virginia. Defoliation was classified as heavy (more than 60% host foliage removed), moderate (30 - 60% loss of foliage), and light. Heavy defoliation occupied a 30 acre area on Short Hill as illustrated on the attached maps. Moderate defoliation occurred on 344 acres while light defoliation was observed on 997 acres. Areas in which defoliation was observed had not been treated. No other forest insect and disease activity was observed.

CONCLUSIONS

Results of this survey along with subsequent ground surveys will be utilized by the Virginia Department of Agriculture to set control priorities for next year. Following this survey, the high altitude optical bar photography obtained through the cooperative project in the Northeast Area will be viewed to determine areas of defoliation.



HARPERS FERRY QUADRANGLE, VA
SCALE = 1:24000
H = Heavy Defoliation
M = Moderate Defoliation
L = Light Defoliation

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